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# Daily Report

## Supplement

# Near East & South Asia

## IRAN:
## Majles Sessions

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# Near East & South Asia
## SUPPLEMENT
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*Majles Sessions*

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CONTENTS

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions ..... 1
11 Sep *[12 Sep]* ..... 1
13 Sep *[14 Sep]* ..... 5
14 Sep *[15 Sep]* ..... 10
18 Sep *[19 Sep]* ..... 15

## RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions

### 11 Sep

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*12 Sep 94 p 5*

[FBIS Translaed Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, after a one-month summer recess. The deputies from the cities of Kerman, Birjand, and Ardebil were preagenda speakers. Then the speaker gave a speech condemning the crimes of the Serbs and the cooperation of the West and international organizations in the slaughter of the oppressed people of Bosnia. He discussed the Cairo Population and Development Conference, and those remarks were published in detail yesterday. Likewise, yesterday's open Majles session was attended by the president of the republic of Pakistan, who gave a speech.

#### Seyyed Mohammad Baqer Mahdavi, Deputy From Kerman

It is the duty of the Ministry of Justice to deal decisively with those who sell at high prices, on charges of damaging the prestige of the government and the revolution, and of using incorrect methods to accumulate wealth.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Mahdavi, deputy from Kerman. During his speech he offered condolences on the death anniversary of Ayatollah Taleqani. He said: According to a verse from the Koran, all the people have complete ownership and control over their assets. That means that anyone has the right to use his assets in any way he wishes. No one has the right to criticize him.

He added: Based on the principle of doing no harm, the Prophet of Islam says: It is true that you control your assets, but this control and authority over assets is proper as long as it does not harm anyone else. If it causes harm to another, your control and authority over your assets is overturned.

The speaker continued: The Islamic government has law, it has a ruler and a leader. It must not be such that anyone works in any way he wishes and acts in any way he wants. Why, in the Islamic government, is everything becoming astronomically expensive day after day? Why do they hide and hoard goods in any way that they wish? Why is there no official to stop all this extortion and selling at high prices? Isn't the Ministry of Commerce Responsible in this regard? Isn't it the duty of the Ministry of Commerce to exercise supreme supervision over all the transactions needed by the public? Isn't it this ministry's duty to make hoarders and those who sell at high prices accountable and to turn them over to the penal courts?

It is the duty of the Ministry of Justice to deal decisively under the law with those who sell at high prices, on charges of damaging the prestige of the government and the revolution, and of using incorrect methods to accumulate wealth at this point in time.

Mehdavi then addressed the president of the republic. He said: We are at the beginning of the Nation's Second Five-Year Economic Plan. If we want this plan to be implemented properly and as anticipated, there must be full adherence to two things: The first is doing useful work, because with this situation we now have, meaning with working too little and expecting high incomes, it is futile to think of planning. As the researchers and experts have said repeatedly, the amount of useful work done by the government's staff workers each day is about one hour, yet in the advanced foreign countries they say that all their time each day is considered useful work.

He also added: Some staff workers and officials do more than 10 hours useful work in a day. Yet even including these activities, the useful work done each day by staff employees averages one hour.

He added: In that case one cannot expect our dear nation to become an advanced nation or a model for other countries. Therefore, with abundant and extensive effort by all the committed classes, it will be possible to reach the goals of the Second Five-Year Plan.

The deputy from Kerman added: If the administrative offices are coordinated with the revolution and the government, the work of the Second Five-Year Plan will go forward, but we see that some of the offices are not completely aligned and in step with the Islamic revolution. They detain their clients and lead them around in circles with paper shuffling and putting everything off until tomorrow, making them pessimistic about the revolution and the future of the government.

The deputy from Kerman explained: Improper veiling has become excessive in some of the offices. This in itself has made the people anxious, especially the respected families of martyrs, and it is discouraging them them. It is therefore necessary for the president of the republic, who has full authority over all the ministries and offices, to issue guidelines preventing improperly veiled individuals from entering government offices or offices affiliated with the government, whether they be employees or clients. The offices must identify and prosecute the employees who work too little and who make excuses, and it must praise active individuals who understand their duties.

If these two important things are done in the government organizations, then the president of the republic's Second Five-Year Plan will certainly be implemented.

In conclusion he praised the new governor-general of Kerman for alleviating problems and establishing security in the province.

#### Seyyed Mohammad Hosein Zain-Ali, Deputy From Birjand

If a tax-paying citizen suddenly falls into a hole in the street and breaks his arm and leg, are reparations for his losses to be had from the city?

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The next speaker was Zain-Ali, deputy from Birjand. During his speech he said: Now that the First Five-Year Plan has ended and we are on the threshold of the Second Five-Year Plan, it is necessary to give national priority to completing the half-complete projects that began during the public commotion to rebuild and develop the country under the First Five-Year Plan and remained half-finished because of unexpected problems and especially because of the nation's foreign exchange shortage.

A look here and there throughout this vast land will show thousands of buildings and industrial installations encouraged by the nation's economic planners and industrial managers, which have been abandoned after the expenditure of billions of rials of the nation's investments.

He added: There are tens of industrial and development projects in which significant foreign exchange investments of millions of dollars have even been made, and the repayment of whose foreign exchange debts has begun or is beginning.

The problem of how to make the installment payments in the coming months adds to the nation's current foreign exchange problems. The losses arising from the stagnation of investments undermines the confidence of investors in the support of the planning and executive system, and the obvious waste of the nation's economic resources is one of the outcomes and undesirable effects of half-complete projects not going into operation.

He explained: The officials are themselves aware that investments in the commercial sector that bring their owners astonishing profits in the shortest period of time will not be redirected towards productive activities by slogans and advice. It will not be acceptable or justifiable for the nation's foreign exchange and banking officials to abdicate their responsibilities, for they are the ones mainly responsible for creating conditions that will lead domestic investment towards productive activities.

Continuing, Zain-Ali discussed the fact that the continuation of fundamental change in production and conversion from a consumer society to a hard working society requires extensive measures. He said: For example, the implementation of an industrial or development project requires the signing of various contracts with real persons and legal entities in the framework of the nation's current laws and regulations, but if one of the parties to a contract violates his commitment, the other side faces many problems obtaining his rights.

A look at the records of some government companies in fulfilling their commitments and contracts will show countless examples of this kind, and it will show how they did not honor the time of the contract either in terms of area of responsibility or in terms of the prices set in the contract, and they violated it. The dimensions of commitments are not limited to production activities. Unfortunately they are to be seen in wider dimensions, especially in connection with the commitments of bodies affiliated with the government.

For example, although citizens are required by law to pay various appropriate taxes and fees to make use of municipal services, suppose a tax-paying citizen suddenly falls into a hole in the street and breaks his arm and leg, or his automobile turns over. Is it possible for the citizen to obtain reparations for his losses from the city? In Iran voltage fluctuations and power failures cause billions of rials in damage to electrical power subscribers, whether household, industrial or agricultural. Does anyone consider himself responsible for repaying the economic losses resulting from that?

In the advanced industrial societies, is the relationship also this onesided between the official organizations and bodies and their clients? When the violation of commitments is so onesided with regard to the nation's interests and the sacred Islamic government, shouldn't a solution be found?

The deputy from Birjand discussed the new academic year and noted: Since Iran is one of the world's young nations, on this basis it is especially important for young people to have an understanding and awareness of the problems and difficulties that face this class for purposes of the nation's development and for the creation of an Islamic society.

He added: Increasing the salaries of teachers and instructors and satisfying them can also play a major role in the training of the nation's youth.

He discussed the concentration of populations in the village areas. He said: Out of about 65,000 villages, there is only one village for every 25,000 square kilometers. On the one hand 70 percent of the rural population with electrical power lives in 25,500 villages, and the other 30 percent of the rural population lacking electrical power is scattered in 40,000 rural areas. While 80 percent of the rural population has sanitary drinking water, these people live in 28,000 villages. To supply water to the remaining 20 percent, water service will have to be provided in 37,000 villages. With the construction of 60,000 kilometers in rural roads, 75 percent of the nation's rural population will have suitable roads.

He continued: Of 1,665 rural residents in the municipalities of Birjand and Nehbandan, an average of 33 percent of the villages have more than 20 families, and 77 percent of the villages have populations with fewer than 20 families.

He emphasized the need to create a project to move the villages with fewer than 20 families under the Second Five-Year Plan, and, with reference to the unemployment throughout the country, he emphasized the need to create employment.

**Nur-ed-Din Noi-Aqdam, Deputy From Ardebil**

There is a full sense of the need to approve a bill or project to give real support to the society's vulnerable classes.

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Noi-Aqdam, deputy from Ardebil, was the final pre-agenda speaker. During his speech he discussed the exalted leader's remarks concerning high prices and inflation during a meeting with the government's managers. He said: Despite the many and praiseworthy successes by the Council of Ministers in implementing the First Five-Year Development Plan, due to the lack of strong implements and leverage for control and supervision, the instability of the nation's currency and the wavering and changing foreign exchange policies that have been implemented so far, it can be said that a large part of society is suffering from high prices and inflation. Unfortunately, the greatest damage is suffered by the classes who were the main supporters of the Islamic revolution, and who have so far made loving sacrifices in all areas of the revolution.

He added: In implementing the remarks of the exalted leader of the revolution and as the second consultation begins for the Second Five-Year Development Plan in the Majles, there is a full sense of the need to approve a bill or project to give real support to the society's vulnerable classes, with real and very strong short-term support.

He discussed the trip taken by the speaker of the Majles to the province of Ardebil. He said: The people of the province of Ardebil, who have been expecting his visit for months, welcomed the loyal friend of the leader of the leader of the revolution and the president of the republic's companion with the utmost zeal and enthusiasm in the province and in all its municipalities.

Noi-Aqdam also offered praise and thanks for the thanks from the deputies from the province of Ardebil to the minister of energy, the minister of agriculture, the minister of industries, the minister of labor and social affairs, the minister of health care and treatment, the chief of the Office of Deprived areas, and the executive director of the Islamic Republic Airline Company.

Among the problems in the province of Ardebil, he mentioned the need to establish a regional water organization; the need to study and implement a rail line going through Mianeh, Khalkhal, Ardebili, Meshkinshahr, and Moghan; the need to expedite startup of the cement factories; the need to build a teaching hospital; the need to quickly equip Ardebil airport with suitable navigational equipment; and the need to provide gas service to the municipalities of Moghan and Khalkhal.

**Legislation**

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the Administrative and Employment Affairs Commission concerning the Bill To Employ 200 People in the National Cultural Heritage Organization (returned from the Guardian Council), for which the commission's amendments were approved.

Article 1: To preserve and revive the traditional arts that are authorized within the framework of the sacred religious laws of Islam and to fulfill the Cultural Heritage Organization's artistic and cultural mission, in the year 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995] the aforementioned organization is authorized to hire and train 200 art students whose qualifications have been confirmed by the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization.

The second item on the agenda was the report from the Foreign Policy Commission concerning the proposed supervision of foreign trips by government workers (returned from the Guardian Council), for which the commission's amendment was approved by the deputies.

In Article 1, which has to do with the members of the council supervising foreign trips by government workers, Paragraph 2, Article 1 was deleted as follows: "The council's secretariat will be located in the Foreign Ministry and the council's secretary will be the deputy foreign minister." The replacement for this paragraph was "the president of the republic's representative will be in charge of the secretariat, located at the president of the republic's headquarters."

Note 1, Article 2 was amended as follows for the purpose of gaining the approval of the Guardian Council:

The missions and trips by the officials and their entourages mentioned in Note 2, Article 2 of the Government Workers Uniform Payments Law enacted 6/13/1370 [4 September 1991] are exempt.

The commission deleted Note 3, Article 3. The reason the Guardian Council rejected this was that this note was a kind of discrimination between the three powers (the legislative, the executive, and the judicial).

It is worth mentioning that this note said: "With regard to trips by delegations sent by the Majles, the Majles Speaker's Council will study and decide on the need and the instances."

The third item on the agenda was the report from the Commerce Commission concerning the bill to add the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the International Uniform Merchandise Distribution and Coding System (returned from the Guardian Council), and the aforementioned amendment was approved. The implementation of one of its paragraphs in Article 1 was deferred for implementation of articles from the Constitution of Iran.

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Constitution Articles 88 and 90 Commission concerning the question from Mr. Khalil Rashidi to the respected minister of post, telegraph and telephone. The commission's final opinion concerning the question from the deputy from Marvdasht was reported as follows:

"The respected minister's reason for building the Communications University in Esfahan are satisfactory."

The fifth item on the agenda was the report from the Constitution Articles 88 and 90 Commission concerning the question from a number of deputies to the minister

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of post, telegraph and telephone with regard to the excessive increases in the pulse rate for telephone usage, for which the question from the deputies was not deemed satisfactory. The full report on this was printed in yesterday's issue of the newspaper.

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Revolutionary Bodies Commission concerning the request for investigation and research on Mr. Mehdavi-Kermani and a number of others from the Foundation for the Oppressed, and this request was approved by the Majles.

The final item on the Majles agenda was the details of the Motion To Consolidate the Ministry of Industries and the Ministry of Heavy Industries to for a Ministry of Industries, which was discussed and studied by the deputies and of which Article 1 was approved.

Based on Article 1 of this motion, as of the date of this law's enactment, the Ministry of Heavy Industries and the Ministry of Industries will be combined and a new ministry will be established and called the Ministry of Industries.

This law provides that the new minister will prepare a charter for this ministry within two months and will present it to the Majles after approval by the Council of Ministers. Based on another note, the credits for the year 1373 for the new ministry will be obtained from the total credits of these two ministries.

**President of the Republic of Pakistan's Address to Majles**

Mr. Farooq Ahmad Leghari, president of the republic of Pakistan, attended an open Majles session yesterday morning and learned about the work of parliament and the activities of the deputies of the people in the area of making law.

Then the president of the republic of Pakistan gave a speech in which he said the Majles is an indication of the power and authenticity of democracy in Iran and the manifestation of the power and authority of the people.

Leghari praised the resistance and courage of the Muslim people of Iran during the period of the sacred defense and for the sake of preserving values in keeping alive His Holiness the Imam's (peace be upon him) valuable heritage. He called for the expansion of high-level meetings between the two nations to strengthen ties and bilateral relations between the two nations.

He then emphasized the Economic Cooperation Organization and Islamic Conference Organization framework, and said: To create unanimity on the mobilization of the great economic resources of Islam, there must be a creative reaction to create an effective mechanism of economic cooperation and it is necessary to strengthen social positions on guarding and preserving commercial and economic resources.

The president of the republic of Pakistan discussed the world's disquieting political outlook and the existing crises in the Muslim world. He said: The inhumane crimes against the Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the violation and slaughter of Muslims in occupied Kashmir and the lack of lasting stability in Afghanistan are examples that prove that the end of the Cold War has not created security in the Muslim world. Current conditions in the Muslim world make it necessary to create solidarity among the countries of the Islamic nation. If the Muslim world does not recognize its grave situation, it will become more divided and vulnerable than ever. If the nation of Islam does not speak bravely against the despotism and collapse that is before it, it will face a bigger invasion.

Elsewhere in his talk Farooq Ahmad Leghari said: The first priority for Pakistan and Iran must be for them to pay attention to the things that are threatening the stability and security in our region and, by creating disturbances, are diverting the attention of governments away from the prominent needs of their people.

He then discussed the issue of Kashmir. He said: It is incumbent upon the Islamic nation to liberate the people of Jamu and Kashmir from despotism and oppression so that they can live with glory and respect. In this regard, I praise from the bottom of my heart the support from the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially that government's proposal to mediate, which we will also welcome in the near future. We are confident that you will use your influence to bring about a peaceful political solution to this problem.

At the end of his speech he said: Pakistan and Iran are proud heirs to a splendid heritage and they are the keepers of the flame of humanitarian and peaceful traditions. We believe in almighty God and his final prophet (peace be upon him). We will achieve our goals through unity and solidarity, and we will achieve success side by side in our mission.

**Words by Majles Speaker**

After the speech of the president of Pakistan, Mr. Nateq Nuri, in a speech welcomed the president of the republic of Pakistan and his delegation. He discussed the role of the Majles in preserving the gains of the Islamic revolution and the pure blood of the martyrs. He discussed the importance of equal rights for all the groups of the nation of Islam, whether Shiites, Sunnis, or religious minorities, in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of respecting their right to vote and express opinions. He expressed the hope that the two nations of Iran and Pakistan, with their many points in common, will work in solidarity on their great mission in the region.

The speaker of the Majles then declared a position with regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina. He said: The Islamic nations are not something that can be passed over with indifference and ignored. They are worried, and all their plots are aimed at keeping this nation from being able to survive.

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With regard to Palestine, he said: It appears that they want to solve the Palestine problem by transferring some of the Palestinian land to a group of Palestinians, but in reality they want to eliminate the Palestinians. By setting 'Arafat's forces against the revolutionary activist Palestinians, they are trying to start a civil war and ultimately to achieve their evil goals of strengthening the Zionists and eliminating Palestine. It is incumbent upon the Islamic nations, especially Iran and Pakistan, to have a unified view and to act in unison on these issues where we have many common interests.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri then discussed the issues in Afghanistan. He said: The bloodshed in Afghanistan is a source of anxiety for Iran and Pakistan, for these two nations bore most of the pressure during the war and slaughter of the nation of Afghanistan.

Elsewhere in his talk the Majles speaker discussed Kashmir. He said: We do not believe that the Kashmir problem with be solved through war, conflict and bloodshed. My view and that of the Majles is that the problem in Kashmir and the differences between India and Pakistan must be solved with intelligence, logic and that the rights of the nation of Kashmir should be achieved through peaceful talks, and their rights should be given to them.

Iran will do whatever it has the ability to do to bring about a peaceful solution to the Kashmir problem, and it will continue to be involved. We consider this to be the logical, wise and godly course.

The speaker of the Majles then expressed the hope that Iran and Pakistan must work together to pursue their many common political, economic and cultural interests in all areas to achieve the two nations' exalted Islamic and national goals.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri also emphasized the need to develop bilateral cooperation in such areas as parliamentary affairs, and he called for the creation of an inter-Majles conference of Islamic nations.

**Majles Notes**

After talks with Mr. Nateq-Nuri attended by Dr. Velayati and Engineer Torkan, at 10:45 the president of the republic of Pakistan came into the Majles. As Mr. Leghari entered, normal Majles proceedings continued and for minutes he witnessed first-hand the Majles law making process.

The failure to arrive on time on the part of some officials and commission experts wasted time in the Majles in some instances. Yesterday during discussion of the motion to research and investigate the Foundation for the Oppressed, the expert, chair and deputy chair of the Revolutionary Bodies Commission were not present in the Majles, and one of the members of the commission was obliged to read the commission's report. This motion was approved by a majority vote of the deputies.

The failure to adhere to regulations on recesses and leaves has continuously caused problems keeping Majles sessions going. Yesterday after a one-month recess a large number of deputies were not present in the Majles and this created problems for the continuation of proceedings, which require a quorum of 180. It appears that measures must be taken in this regard to prevent the delay of Majles programs.

## 13 Sep

*95LA0001A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 14 Sep 94 p 5*

[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met in open session yesterday chaired by Mr. Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from the cities of Abadeh, Moghan and Marvdasht gave preagenda speeches.

At yesterday's open Majles session the question from Dr. Tavakoli, deputy from Khomeyn, to the minister of post and telegraph, was also presented.

We direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the detailed proceedings and speeches.

**Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Dana, Deputy From Abadeh**

The lack of reliable intelligence sources and various figures and statistics has brought planners and investors up against difficulties.

The first preagenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Dana, deputy from Abadeh. During his speech he offered congratulations on the beginning of the new academic year to the educational community and to those learning knowledge and wisdom. With regard to the Second Five-Year Plan, he said: There is no doubt that the nation's economy is in dire need of real investment and the guidance of resources, but a reliable foundation of faith and other things must be created.

Continuing, he added: Another point is the lack of reliable intelligence sources and various figures and statistics, which has brought planners, analysts and investors up against difficulties. This bespeaks the need for a vigorous and reliable system of statistics.

The deputy from Abadeh discussed his electoral district and the orders issued in the interest of farmers concerning land affairs in the village of Gelehdar. He said: This order, which was issued by order of the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution and with the support and follow through of other officials, has solved 30 years of irresolvable problems and difficulties for a number of oppressed people who have no refuge other than Islam and the sacred government of Islam. I consider it necessary and obligatory, on my own behalf and that of my constituents, to sincerely thank and praise the exalted leader, who with his messianic words, kindness and magnanimous nobility, was kind to these village people and the people of the entire region.

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He also added: After Shiraz, Abadeh is the second oldest city culturally in the province of Fars. In the year 1308 [21 March 1929 -20 March 1930] the first middle school outside Shiraz was built there. For this reason it has more than 2,000 graduates, from physicians to engineers.

The deputy from Abadeh then discussed the rich natural resources and also the favorable conditions that exist for development and progress in his electoral district. He invited domestic and foreign investors to get involved, so that with their presence in this region of potential and hospitality, they will see this part of the country flourish.

**Firuz Ahmadi, Deputy From Moghan**

Satellites are a profound cultural plot whose seeds were planted years ago.

The next speaker was Ahmadi, deputy from Moghan. During his talk he discussed the message from the exalted leader of the revolution concerning superstitious behavior and hitting with knives as a gesture of mourning for Hoseyn. He said: My dear colleagues know that heresy and superstition masquerading as religion was called mourning, and became a huge social problem. In the face of this ignorance, the martyr-nurturing people and the Shiite clergy sat on their hands without seeing or saying anything. The people of our era are not the only ones who have suffered from this dangerous heresy. Great clergymen such as Ayatollah Borujerdi, Martyr Motahari and others have shared this regret with us.

He added: Finally the pure people took action and put an end to all this despair and hopelessness. Oh worthy successor of the Imam, o great seyyed, like the idol-smashing Imam, you have destroyed heresy. No one understood the depth of the calamity as well as you. Because of the beauty of your proclamation, the people of the province of Ardebil, your representative Ayatollah Moruj and the governor-general created beauty in obeying your proclamation. Most beautiful of all will be that day when in recognition of this love the expectant eyes of the tribes and people of the region are brightened by your luminous glory, and when you remove the dust and grime of oppression and deprivation from their expectant eyes with your kindly hands.

He thanked the speaker of the Majles and his accompanying delegation for traveling to this province. With regard to the satellite phenomenon, he said: Today it is no secret to anyone that we are opposed to satellites, but what we oppose is the vulgar satellite programming, which has today undermined the moral security of the Muslim and martyred people and is about to endanger our national security. Satellite programming has exposed our young people to what is clearly forbidden. Our officials must not come under the influence of liberal controversies and speak out of both sides of their mouths.

He explained: We are not talking about satellites, we are talking about a profound cultural plot whose seeds were planted years ago and are now bearing fruit for Muslim youth.

It is unfortunate that the officials of the Voice and Vision organization and the Ministry of Guidance, limping through this swamp, are dazzled, talking about development, clear ideas and making the best use of satellites.

It is hoped that the Majles will vote in favor of prohibiting it to prevent the spread of sin and forbidden things in society, and so that moral security will be protected.

Ahmadi continued: The dear people expect the respected government to deal decisively with violators who undermine public order in society. With all of these agencies such as the judicial power, the National Inspectorate Office, the Secret Investigators, the Ministry of Intelligence, the Accounting Court, the Administrative Justice Court, the Violations Investigation Council and the revolutionary courts, why is no attention paid to the people in the offices? Why isn't careful investigation done on the performance of officials? Why aren't a handful of professional hoarders and brokers who are undermining the nation's economy dealt with? Why is there no careful investigation of the performance of officials? Why aren't smuggling and the high prices of drugs and basic goods dealt with seriously?

Today, the slightest weakness of managers must not be overlooked. If managers and officials do not have the ability to plan for public affairs, they must be fired and kept from making the beautiful face of the Islamic government ugly. Why haven't those who have been responsible for making the people unhappy about high prices been turned over to the judicial authorities? The chief of the judicial power announced in his press conference that so far no one has been turned over to them as an economic terrorist to be dealt with.

In conclusion, the deputy from Moghan discussed the problems and difficulties in his electoral district. He asked for help and cooperation from the minister of petroleum for delivering gas service to Moghan and Khalkhal, from the minister of the reconstruction jihad about implementing a water delivery service to 50 border rural areas, from the minister of education and training about making education and training in Ja'farabad regional, and from the president of the republic concerning solving the problem of building the Khoda Afarin dam.

**Jalil Rashidi, Deputy From Marvdasht**

The toiling farmers in Marvdasht, by producing 200,000 tons of corn, have earned first place in the country.

The final preagenda speaker was Rashidi, deputy from Marvdasht. During his speech he wished success to the dear teachers and students in the new academic year. He said: Your one-month summer recess travel diary began

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and ended full of endless complaints from the people and the government's clients concerning high prices and the failure to control and supervise prices.

He noted that very few deputies failed to hear complaints from their constituents about the excessive increases in the prices for cooking oil, sugar, electrical power, telephone service and in increased taxes and fees.

Continuing, elsewhere in his talk he discussed the late Imam's will with regard to the Majles advising the government and those working in the government to pay attention to the oppressed, and also the exalted leader of the revolution's comments about social justice. He added: Our revolution is a cultural and ideological revolution. Therefore, economic calculations must not be used in the rendering of cultural services. The basis of the work is attention to the students who are preparing these days to go to school, but they have many problems.

Rashidi said: Among the nation's important problems is the shortage of employment rows in the budget and the lack of proper and appropriate distribution of the existing rows, such as in the Province of Fars, where the problem is more acute.

The speaker noted that reliance on domestic products has good prospects. He added: Among the things that must take place is economizing on expenditures and truly and practically avoiding ostentation. Unfortunately we have not been successful in this regard. Every day there is greater use of the latest luxury automobiles and more seminars and conferences, and practical steps must be taken to deal with this.

Rashidi said with regard to his electoral district: The hard working and toiling farmers of Marvdasht have once again shone in the nation's production and economy. With the delivery of 225,000 tons of wheat and the production of close to 200,000 tons of corn, they have earned first place.

At the end of his talk the deputy from Marvdasht thanked the minister of the interior for agreeing to establish the Seyyedan District and for setting up a vehicle license plate installation unit in Marvdasht. He issued memos to the telephone officials about expediting the start-up of the 2,000-number Marvdasht to Sa'adat Shahr telephone project, and also to the minister of health care and treatment about investigating the situation at Marvdasht Hospital.

**Deputy From Khomeyn's Question to Engineer Gharazi**

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the question from Mohammad Baqer Tavakoli to the minster of post, telegraph and telephone. The deputy from Khomeyn sought answers to questions he asked of Engineer Gharazi. With regard to his questions, he said: In view of the fact that surface mail has been and is a world postal standard and that the government's general policy is to eliminate duplicate organizations, under Article 146 of the Majles Internal Guidelines, Mr Gharazi, respected minister of post, telegraph and telephone is invited to answer the following questions:

1 - What was the cost of building Payam Airport, the navigational facilities, the communications network and to purchase the aircraft?

2 - What is the authorization for the purchase of the airport and to buy the aircraft?

3 - What is the economic justification for these investments?

4 - How much is the heavy annual cost of the above complex?

5 - What are the quantities of letters, parcels and freight carried, and what is the real income earned from the time operation began until 1/1/1373 [21 March 1994]?

**Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone's Answer**

Concerning the first question, engineer Gharazi said: The total cost of building Payam Airport is 8 billion rials [R], and the cost of buying five aircraft is estimated at $5.8 million.

Concerning authorization to build the airport, he said: Authorization to build is in accordance with existing documents, the document jointly approved by the postal and telephone companies boards of directors, the minutes of the General Assembly of the Telephone Company in the years 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992], 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993], and 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994] and the agreement in principle by the National Aircraft Organization. The authorization to build Payam Airport is based on the measure approved at meeting 156 of the Permanent Committee of the National Public Aeronautics Office, the agreement by the respected president of the republic, the chief of the Economic Council and the measure enacted by the government to make airports international.

Engineer Gharazi discussed the economic justification for investing in the airport. He said: Between the years 1362 and 1367 [21 March 1983-20 March 1989] we spent a total of 600 million tumans renting helicopters. Our studies found that building a road and maintaining it is very costly and that it is therefore better to use helicopters.

The minister of post said the total heavy cost of annual maintenance between the years 1369 and 1372 [21 March 1990-20 March 1994] was R1.601 million. Concerning the final question he said: The total freight was 2,600 tons and our revenues were more than 800 million tumans.

**Deputy From Khomeyn's Further Remarks**

Mohammad Baqer Tavakoli spoke again concerning his question. He said: The construction of the Payam Airport began in the year 1369 and was completed in the year 1372. It is true that they obtained authorization in

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the year 1372, but they built the airport in 1369. That is, they built first and then got authorization, which is highly debatable. In the year 1369 they spent 200 million tumans, 580 million tumans and $10.5 million in foreign exchange in the year 1370, 523.4 million tumans and $14.1 million in foreign exchange expenditures in the year 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993], and 116.2 million tumans in the year 1372. The total rial expenditures was 1.4196 billion tumans and the total foreign exchange expenditures was $24.6 million, though he says that it was $14 million.

Unfortunately in the construction of the airport he only had permission to build a complex, for the chief of the Plan and Budget Organization was vigorously opposed to this project. The chief of the Plan and Budget Organization believes that large projects must be approved by the the Economic Council or under the First Five-Year Plan, and unfortunately this was not done.

He then added: You claim that you began the airport in Mordad 1369 [23 July-22 August 1980]. Why did you spend credits for microwave communications road construction on building Payam Airport? On what authorization did you do this? You claim that you began the project in the year 1369 with 200 million tumans in expenditures. Why did you not submit that for competitive bidding, and why did you do it as a direct government operation? In building this project you committed four major legal violations:

1 - You did it without authorization in the year 1369.

2 - You spent this huge sum of money without competitive bidding and as a government operation.

3 - Unfortunately, according to existing documents, in some cases you do not make postal use of it. There are detailed postal complaints, and if necessary we will submit the documents.

4 - Construction of the airport on lands in Mehrshahr of Karaj was not approved by the Supreme Urban Construction Council, and it was not part of the comprehensive plan for the city of Karaj.

Continuing his remarks the deputy from Khomeyn said the huge investments for this project sharply increased the costs in the postal ministry and company. He said: In doing this you have raised postal costs. Postal expansion and increases in public participation in postal activities has had and will have the opposite effect of raising the prices of postal services. Unfortunately, the lack of control leverage and the weakness of the supervisory organization have caused you to increase the prices of postal letters every day.

He also added: My question in these six months you took more than 5 billion extra tumans from the people. Aren't you indebted to all the people of Iran? Didn't Majles legislation become religiously lawful when it was validated by the Guardian Council? Why did you violate religious and civil law here so that you are now obliged to return five billion tumans to the people? Of course because of the enormous expenses you have with telephone and postal service and Payam Airport, you are obliged to increase expenses.

The deputy from Khomeyn then emphasized: The construction of the airport is not profitable at all. Why haven't you made use of the resources at the national airport? Have you decided to build 400 postal airports in the nation's 400 cities? Then, entirely unfortunately, you announce on television that the people must pay the costs of postal expenses. Why do you deal with the people in this way? We and you must accept that the people are the principle in the government and they must be supported. We must solve the problems in the ministry by reducing expenses, not by increasing expenses and revenues.

**New Answer from Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone**

In his new Engineer Gharazi discussed the airport's economic justification and invited the deputies to come and see for themselves.

He added: Dr. Tavakoli's basic point is that the airport cannot be economical, yet if a government management can build an economical airport and if it can give the numbers and figures to its respected officials, this is truly positive for the country and it should not be seen as a negative thing.

Concerning the bidding on this project, Gharazi said: We began this task very quietly and obtained the authorizations. We needed helicopters and since we could not use Mehrabad Airport, we had a place called Halqeh Darreh which was in the center of the traffic. First we built a place there for helicopters, which did not require bidding, and then we saw that we should definitely use an airport and postal aircraft to deliver the public's letters. We did not obtain authorization to build a runway for the use of postal aircraft, and this work was done gradually.

With regard to nonpostal use of the airport, he said: This is natural, because it is possible that the postal company's board of directors might want to charge a fee to others who might want to use this airport, and a decisionmaking body will have to determine what form this should take.

Concerning the construction at Mehr Shahr of Karaj and the failure to obtain the necessary authorizations, he added: If this had been done in the city of Karaj, there would be something to talk about, but if the necessary authorizations were obtained, there is no need for this discussion.

Continuing, he said: If investments increased costs, companies would not do this. Aircraft and helicopters are necessary to deliver postal letters. In my view it is somewhat counterproductive to say that investment

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causes price increases or that investment always causes prices to drop and services to expand.

He added: The amount of mail that had been gathered at the beginning of the Five-Year Plan was 200 million pieces, and at the beginning of the Five-Year Plan it was 70 million.

Engineer Gharazi said: Likewise, money cannot be spent and prices cannot be increased without authorization and coordination. Prices are not set by the minister, prices are set by the assembly, the council, the Economic Council and the Majles. If these authorities have done their work, then this talk of attributing it to a person is not correct.

After the minister's remarks, because Dr. Tavakoli was not satisfied, the question was referred to the Majles Articles 88 and 90 Commission.

**Legislation**

**Very Urgent Retirement Coordination System Bill**

The second item on the agenda was the Retirement Pay Coordination System Bill, which was presented as a very urgent motion.

Concerning the bill's very urgent status, the government's representative said: More than 300,000 people in the country are waiting for this decision from the respected Majles, and their orders must have an effect on the coordination system and be implemented as of the beginning of the year 1374 [21 March 1995]. Provisions must be made as of the beginning of the year 1373 [21 March 1994] for those who are retiring this year, and this is several months behind schedule. This year we will have about 40,000 retirees in the country, more than 30,000 of whom are in the second six months. To save time for the Majles and the government and to get the work of this hard working and toiling class done, the request for very urgent status has been made.

Since there was no opposition to very urgent status for the bill, the motion was put to a vote and very urgent status for the bill was approved by the deputies.

**Consolidation of Ministry of Industries and Ministry of Heavy Industries**

The next item on the agenda was continued consideration of the motion to consolidate the Ministry of Industries and Ministry of Heavy Industries and form a Ministry of Industries, of which Article 1 and its notes were approved by the Majles.

Article 1. As of the date of this law's enactment the Ministry of Industries and Ministry of Heavy Industries will be consolidated and combined into one new industry called the Ministry of Industries will be formed.

Note 1 - Within a maximum of two months the new minister is required to prepare a charter for the ministry, and to submit it to the Majles for final approval after approval by the Council of Ministers.

Note 2 - All development projects, depending on the type of activity, will come under the mantle of either the Ministry of Industries or the Ministry of Mines and Metals.

Note 3 - The credits for the year 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995] for the new ministry will be procured from the total credits for these two ministries.

It is worth mentioning that a note to Article 1 of this motion was opposed by the deputies and was deleted. Article 4 said: "as of the date of this law's enactment the Iran National Industries Organization, the Iran Industrial Development and Reconstruction Organization, the Iran National Steel Company, the Iran Copper Industries Company and the Aluminum Company will be managed independently and separately from the relevant ministries based on the relevant charters."

**Universal Insurance Bill Details**

The details of the Universal Insurance Bill were the fourth item on the Majles agenda, and they were discussed and studied by the deputies.

Article 1: Primary insured: An individual who is directly covered by the regulations for health care services insurance given in this law, who after payment of the share fee (by the individual or the authorities designated in the law) will be eligible to use treatment service benefits.

2 - The primary insured may make use of the benefits given in this law.

3 - Rural resident: A rural resident is someone who lives in a village, and also the settled tribal people mentioned in this law will make use of the benefits for rural residents.

4 - Needy persons: This term applies to people who are unable to manage their lives and their dependent families because of economic, social, bodily or psychological conditions.

5 - Self-employed professions and occupations: This term applies to all individuals who are entrepreneurs according to laws and regulations.

6 - Per-person fee: A sum that is designated for each individual each month based on the services committed to those covered by health care insurance.

7 - Franchise: The portion of the treatment cost the insured party must pay at the time of receiving treatment services.

8 - True cost of services: The full cost of the services in addition to the added profit (fixed assets). In the government sector the investment profit (fixed assets) and amortization will not be included.

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Article 2: To expand and provide health care insurance and implement policymaking responsibilities, do planning, create executive coordination, and guide, supervise and assess the quantity and quality of health care insurance in the framework of this law, the National Supreme Council of Health Care Services, henceforth to be called the Supreme Council, under the supervision of the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment and Medical Education, will be formed.

Article 3: The composition of the Supreme Council will be as follows:

1 - Minister of health care and treatment (chief of the Supreme Council)

2 - Minister of labor and social affairs

3 - Minister of economic and financial affairs

4 - Chief of the Plan and Budget Organization

5 - General manager of the National Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization

6 - Chief of the Medical Association Organization

7 - Executive director of the Social Security Organization

8 - Executive director of health care insurance

9 - Executive director of armed forces health care services

10 - Supervisor of the Imam Khomeyni (peace be upon him) Aid Committee

11 - Deputy minister of health care, treatment and medical education for treatment affairs (without the right to vote)

12 - Two Majles deputies from the Plan and Budget and Health Care commissions (one person from each), will attend Supreme Council meetings observers

Note - The Supreme Council secretariat will be located in the Ministry of Health Care and Treatment and the Supreme Council's deputy secretary for treatment affairs will be responsible for announcing the measures enacted by the council.

Article 4: The government is required to create the necessary conditions to provide coverage to all groups and individuals in society who want health care insurance. Health care insurance coverage and security will be provided for all groups covered by this law no later than five years after this law is approved, with priority given to the needy and rural residents, in accordance with the criteria given in this law.

Continuation of the discussion was postponed to the next session.

**Majles Notes**

With regard to the unbridled price increases on some goods and services that have taken place in recent weeks, the Majles has decided to deal with this issue.

Yesterday Mr. Kamyar, chief of the Accounting Court Commission, told our parliamentary correspondent: Recently factory managers have decided to raise the price of cement from 2,300 tumans to 5,500 tumans. There reasoning is that since the price of this item has risen on the market, the factories must also raise their prices, yet this is in violation of Majles legislation.

He added: The Majles has become sensitive to price increases for cement, sugar cubes, sugar, cooking oil and other items. According to the respected speaker of the Majles, next week there will be a closed session to study these issues. Violators who have acted against the will of the Majles will be dealt with severely, and Majles action will definitely have an effect reducing the prices of these goods.

The increased prices for some goods and services, which have taken place in the last few days, have produced reactions among the deputies.

Mr. Yusefpur, deputy from Ardel, speaking quite critically of price increases, told our correspondent: In this regard, next week in the Majles questions will be asked of the relevant ministers.

He added: In the years 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994] and 1373 [21 March 1994-20 March 1995], the price of steel increased excessively, and this also had an effect on other occupations and services. On the other hand, the sum of 2,000 tumans was added to the price of a ton of cement for no justifiable reason, and the reason for that is not specified. Likewise, for some time the prices of vehicles have been increasing without any reason.

In recent weeks a malfunction has developed in the distribution and the pricing of sugar cane, sugar and cooking oil, and in this regard questions will be asked of the minister of mines and metals, the minister of industries, the minister of heavy industries and the minister of commerce. If the reasons given are not satisfactory the matter will be pursued in open session.

Unfortunately some managers of government companies do not pay attention to the problems in the daily lives of the people and increase prices for no reason. So far we have not received any acceptable justification for the increases in the prices of steel, cement and vehicles. Some companies are excessively wasteful and spend money needlessly, and they add these expenditures to goods pro rated as part of the finished cost.

## 14 Sep

*95LA0002A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 15 Sep 94 pp 12, 13*

[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles held a session yesterday

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with Dr. Ruhani presiding and the deputies from Gonbad-e Kavus, Khomeynishahr, Hamadan, and Astaneh Ashrafiyyeh making speeches. Then the Majles went into session. We call to your attention the details of the discussions.

**Atrak Tayyar, Deputy From Gonbad-e Kavus**

The first preagenda speaker was Atrak Tayyar the deputy from Gonbad-e Kavus, who referred to the visit of the honorable Cabinet and the grand leader and said: His honor's attention to the oppressed indicates the truth, that the grand leader of the revolution is quite alertly aware of each and every event in the society and is concerned about the oppressed and suffering stratum of the society.

He added: Unfortunately, national capitalism and the market, by controlling the economic arteries and imposing the power of money in various arenas, affect the management of the society and have overshadowed the government program with their demands resulting from foreign currency shortages.

In whose interest is this situation? And what stratum must suffer from this situation? This situation is only in the interests of a small stratum engaged in increasing growth by accumulating great wealth. This has stunned public conscience with its sinfulness. This is while the true owners of the revolution, the oppressed stratum of the country, who in the course of the history of the revolution and at the present time, tolerating the unfavorable economic conditions, insist on the continuation of the value system and need serious support.

Tayyar explained: Is it not proper for the government in the Second Developmental Plan to seriously rise in support of the people who, with their unwavering faith and will, defend the existence of the revolution by strengthening Article 29 of the Constitution, providing social security in the broad sense of the word, supporting the Iranian Cooperative sector, fighting leech-like subjugators, announcing emergency economic conditions with regard to foreign trade, and stabilizing prices?

In conclusion, the speaker made reminders to the ministers of roads and transport, energy, finance, health, and [construction] jihad.

**Seyyed Mohammad Ahmadi, Deputy From Khomeynishahr and Marbin**

The next speaker was Ahmadi from Khomeynishahr and Marbin, who said: The existing realities in the society are much more critical and harsh than these speeches indicate. As God is my witness, I have felt the revolution with all my being and want the interests and good of Islam, the country, and the people.

He continued: The Majles has established more than 30 active parliamentary friendship groups with Asian, Australian, European and other countries. I wish the Majles would also establish a friendship group with the people, to go to the heart of the people and attend to their pain. Of course, we are speaking of this in an organizational form, otherwise, I am sure we can say that the deputies are all from the people and love the people.

In connection with controlling prices and inflation, he added: When you started mumbling about the Majles' involvement in the issue of pricing, the thought was that this was an initiative of the Majles to control the prices and inflation. But with the passage of time, the probability is that this is a trick prepared by the Supreme Council of Economy or the government to deceive the Majles. As a result, the Majles is presented as a partner in the crime or the main perpetrator of inflation. We must defend the foundation of the Majles. Ahmadi stated that: Any ratification that guarantees price increases is regarded as condemned and invalid from the viewpoint of your constituents. He also said: Silence does not indicate consent always and everywhere. Your constituents are seriously dissatisfied with this rising inflation. By suggesting the omission of such ratifications and with the initiative of the Combining Committee, this situation must be ended.

Pointing out that everyone must know that the Majles deputies will never accept hush money, the speaker said: When the credentials of Dr. Marandi, the minister of health and treatment, were being discussed, there was such talk about his miraculous talent for solving problems that one would think the Prophet Moses with his magic cane or the Prophet Jesus with his curing breath had come to the arena. But today, we witness patients who prefer the angel of death to treatment and going to doctors and hospitals.

Ahmadi continued: This is the situation with regard to medicine, and this is the situation with regard to treatment and the plan for the self-sufficiency of hospitals, and this is the situation of education and nonprofit schools and discrimination in education, the withholding of the oppressed stratum of the society from education or a desired quality of education. We must come up with a solution to this situation.

The deputy from Khomeynishahr, referring to a letter that he received, said: The writer complained about the high price of legumes and food and wrote, Do the officials not use legumes, that they do not know the price? Brother, yes, they do use legumes, but some officials only use, among the legumes, the no pill, and a great deal of it. [In other words,] no matter what topic, individual or social, is referred to them, the answer is no. May God grant some fairness.

In connection with reminders to the minister or ministers, he said: As long as the current economic policy of the government is to impose more hardship on the people, asking questions of the minister is meaningless and useless. The government must revise its economic policy.

Stating that, more than the economic problem, what occupies the mind of a responsible human being is the

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weakness in belief, poverty of morality, and widespread invasion of corruption, Ahmadi said: In order to fight these threatening elements, we must engage more in promoting the culture, economic development, and social justice.

Referring to the complaint of farmers that their electricity is calculated the same as the electricity for business and industry, he added: The amount of 14,000 tumans was the previous bill, and for the same amount of time, 140,000 tumans was calculated.

In conclusion, the speaker asked that the natural gas outreach and the completion of the Khomeynishahr Loop Road be expedited.

**Ahmad Habibian, Deputy From Hamadan**

The next speaker was Habibian the deputy from Hamadan, who said: The world-devouring United States, with the cooperation of Zionism and elements devoted to them, have felt inferiority and misery in the wake of the grandeur of the revolution and the Islamic regime of Iran.

He mentioned the explosion of the bombs in Argentina and holy Mashhad as a example of the efforts to counter the wave of support for Islam and said: The appearance of such a situation intensifies the responsibility of our nation, especially the deputies and government officials, more than ever before. It is our duty in preserving these divine gifts to continue to rely on values and not to stop for a moment in thanking God.

He added: How long must we inform the officials of the country about the issue of high prices and uncontrolled inflation from the podium of the Majles? In my opinion, after the wise statements of the grand leader to the Cabinet and his complaint about this important issue, we should not talk about this matter any more. Instead of talking and slogans, we must roll up our sleeves and, with the final ratification of the bill on consumer protection and serious implementation of this law by the government, eliminate the problem of high prices and inflation forever.

Referring to the start of the academic year, he praised the role of teachers in the society and, addressing the minister of education, reminded him not to forget the government schools. With the increase in nonprofit schools, the danger exists that the necessary value will not be placed on government schools; whereas, the philosophy of establishing nonprofit schools was that those who are better off financially would register their children in them in order to assist the government.

In another part of his speech, Habibian pointed out: A minister who has complained about a deputy to the Judicial Branch must know more than everyone else that a deputy is the mouthpiece of the people, and his right to criticise and express his opinion has been endorsed by the Constitution. More important, the deputy has taken an oath on the Koran to do his duty.

When the Constitution says that deputies are quite free in performing their duties to express their opinions on votes, prosecution, or arrest, on what basis does the minister of mines and metals accuse the deputy of spreading lies? From this sacred podium, I do not want to say who has spread lies, the ministry or the deputy. If for making a reminder or criticizing some minister a deputy is going to be put on trial and have a case made against him, instead of studying the proposals and bills, offering plans and opinions, and attending to his constituency, he will have to spend all his time on collecting evidence in his defense. If so, what security remains in his continuing as a deputy?

I ask the speaker of the Majles, if this is the result of questions or criticism, is there any guarantee to continue working? If a deputy knows about the situation and conditions of a ministry and knows that private reminders have no effect, what is his duty? As a member of the Accounting Committee, because of the information that I have and have had about the violations of organizations, I have asked questions of several ministers about some of the violations under their supervision, which, to be fair, were met with dignity, patience, and even reminders by these dear people.

He continued: What I expect is for all the ministers to be like this. Now that the issue of inquiry and investigation in the Foundation for the Oppressed and Self-Sacrificers has been approved by the Majles, it is expected that the honorable head of the Foundation will be kind to the members of this group, even though I am worried about repetitions of unkindness by the head of the Foundation.

**Hasan Shakhesi, Deputy From Astaneh Ashrafiyyeh**

The last preagenda speaker of the open session yesterday was Shakhesi from Astaneh Ashrafiyyeh, who thanked the officials and personalities who had sent telegrams and attended the funeral of Hojjat ol-Eslam Esma'ilian, the late Friday imam of Kiashahr Port, and, referring to the speech of Ahmadi the deputy from Khomeynishahr, said: Our honorable colleagues who made speeches, truly broke our hearts. I wanted to speak about this late Friday imam, who invested so much for Islam and the revolution, so I changed my speech somewhat.

He added: I wanted to say to my honorable colleagues, about the way the actions of the government were pictured from the podium after so much progress, you should know that scholars also saw the factor of progress, discussed the shortcomings and their actual course, and offered their suggestions for the elimination of problems. From behind this podium, despite all the investment, such a tone seriously requires some contemplation.

Stating that the minister of economic affairs and finance being required to pay attention in the selection of the director general of the Central Bank to the general view of the Majles also is the opinion of the noble people of Iran and will certainly effect the progress of the plan, the speaker added: I request of the government that it take

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serious steps to reduce the inflated price of general foods and prepare a mechanism to fight price hikers.

In conclusion, Shakhesi congratulated the precollegiate and college students on the start of the academic year and all the valuable forces of the Islamic revolution on Sacred Defense Week.

**Ratifications**

**Bill on the National Health Services Insurance System**

The first item on the agenda of the open session of the Majles yesterday was the bill on the national health services insurance system, of which several other articles were ratified.

According to Article 5: I order to provide the resources for health services insurance for government employees, the needy strata, villagers, and other social groups, the Health Services Insurance Organization, which is here on referred to as the Organization, will be established and operated as a government company.

According to Note 3: With the establishment of the Organization, that part of the duties, authority, resources, employees, properties, and funds of the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education which is used with regard to the health insurance of government employees will be transferred to the Organization.

Article 7. All government and government-affiliated organizations and agencies, the Imam Khomeyni Emergency Committee, and actual and legal persons are free to choose the Organization or insurance, companies with which to sign health services insurance contracts within the framework of the criteria and content of this law, and the establishment of Health Services Insurance Organization will not negate this right and choice.

Note 1. Organizations subject to the social security law and the Health Services Organization are responsible for presenting their proposal for signing insurance agreements to the Social Security Organization and the Health Services Organization and for receiving the necessary permit from the above-mentioned organizations, as the case may be. If the Social Security Organization and the Health Services Organization do not agree on the proposal, and this issue is protested by the proposer, the issue will be reported to the Supreme Council for a final decision.

Note 3. The implemental bylaws of this article will be proposed jointly by the Social Security Organization and the Health Services Organization within a maximum of four months and approved by the Supreme Council and ratified by the Cabinet.

Note 4. The Imam Khomeyni Emergency Committee, in addition to the Government Insurance Organization and companies, may sign contracts with health services establishments.

Article 11. Health services that are provided through the health and treatment network affiliated with the Ministry of Health and Treatment will all be free of charge.

Note. Every year, the Ministry of Health and Treatment will determine and announce a list of such free services as well as the names and specifications of drugs and necessities in the strategic health programs.

**Coordinated System of Retirement Pay**

The next item on the agenda was the very urgent bill on the coordinated system of retirement and duty pay, the general points of which were ratified first. Then the Majles discussed the details of the bill, and its articles were ratified by the deputies.

Article 1. If the retirement and duty pay for disability and the duty pay of heirs (total payment to heirs) in the Armed Forces and all organizations subject to the social security law exceeds the maximum stated in Article 16 of the above-mentioned law, two-thirds of the surplus amount in addition to the above-mentioned maximum is payable payable as retirement salary and duty pay. . Note 1. The basis for calculating the retirement salary and duty pay of the faculty of universities and higher education institutions will be the average of the net salary and extra pay of the job for the last three years of service and the years of service.

Article 2. The retirement salary and duty pay of members of the National Retirement Fund who until the date of the implementation of this law have been retired, disabled, or have died shall be determined as follows:

A. Determining salary, on the basis of the salary charts cited in Article 1 of the coordinated system of payment of government employees, and determining the extra pay of the related job in accordance with the current regulations used by those working in that organization.

B. A 3-percent increase in base salary for every year of service that has been the criterion for granting rank or similar titles as an annual increase.

C. Average of the total salary and extra pay of the last three years of service, which will be determined in the implementation of Paragraphs A and B above, in accordance with the related laws and regulations, shall be the basis for the calculation of retirement and duty pay. If the retirement salary and duty pay for disability and duty pay of heirs (total payment to heirs) exceeds the maximum stated in Article 16 of the law on the coordinated system of payment of government employees, two-thirds of the surplus amount in addition to the above-mentioned maximum is payable.

Note 1. Ministry retirement and salary and duty pay for disability and duty pay of those with judicial ranks who are retired, disabled, or have died, until the date of the implementation of this law, will be determined in coordination with those subject to Article 14 of the coordinated system of payment of government employees and adherence to the content of Paragraph C of this article.

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Note 2. Retirement salary and duty and regular pay of the employees of the Armed Forces who until the date of the implementation of this law have retired, become disabled, or died shall be calculated and paid in accordance with Paragraphs 1, 2, and 5 of Article 13 of the amendment to the law amending the law on the coordinated system of payment of government employees, ratified in 1371 [21 March 1992-30 March 1993], and the coefficient of the increase in annual service years of 3 percent. If their salary exceeds the maximum stated in Article 16 of the law on the coordinated system of payment of government employees, two-thirds of the surplus amount in addition to the determined maximum is payable.

Note 4. Annual increase of employees who are retired in the period between the implementation of the law on the coordinated system of payment of government employees and the implementation of this law shall be calculated at the same level, in conformity with the regulations of this law.

Note 5. The retirement salary of the employees of the Armed Forces shall be calculated and paid on the basis of the average of the total salary and difference in adjustment of the salary and job benefits of the last three years of the service, which is almost 20 percent higher than the average of the last three years of the salary and benefits of national employment employees.

Article 4. The minimum retirement salary and disability duty pay and duty pay of heirs (total payment to heirs) of the official employees subject to the national employment law and employees who in terms of retirement and duty are subject to the above-mentioned law and are members of the National Retirement Fund as well as the permanent employees of the City Halls, the Armed Forces, and government establishments and companies, which are subject to the law, if mentioned by name, and regular pay recipients who receive pay from the funds of government companies will always be the equivalent of the minimum salary and benefits set for working employees.

Article 6. The date of the implementation of Article 1 of this law is 01/01/1373 [21 March 1994] and other articles 01/01/1374 [21 March 1995]. Its implemental bylaws, as the case may be, will be prepared within three months after the law becomes mandatory by the Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization of the country (for employees subject to this law) and the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics (for the Armed Forces) and approved by the Cabinet.

Article 7. All laws and regulations contrary to this law are nullified.

**On the Margins**

Mr. Hejrati, the parliamentary deputy director of the Administrative and Employment Affairs Organization, said to our correspondent in connection with the increase in government employee salaries: Following meetings and negotiations of the officials of this organization with Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and his agreement to increase the salary of government employees, this proposal was offered to the government.

He added: In this proposal, the necessary precautions are made in regards to the increase of the rial coefficient of government employee salaries, the increase in the ceiling of the exemptions, taking into consideration loans for employees who have no housing, and the increase in the ability of employee consumer cooperatives.

Our reporter also was informed that the results of this proposal will be determined and announced by the 10 days of Fajr.

The report on the distribution of the 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992] budget will be offered to the Majles next week.

This report is the result of the operation of one year of the executive organizations in the distribution of the budget in the years after the victory of the Islamic revolution and is of particular importance. The first distribution of the budget concerned 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991], which was read in the Majles last year.

Following the announcement of the opinion of the Committee on Articles 88 and 90 of the Constitution and the Energy Committee that the increase in the price of postal and telephone rates is illegal, a large number of Majles deputies in a letter to the speaker of the Majles asked that the prices ratified by the Majles in this regard be implemented.

After the speech of Mr. Ahmadi, the deputy from Khomeynishahr, who had criticized the officials in connection with high prices and inflation, Dr. Ruhani said:

We ask of the deputies that if they express one of the problems of the society, alongside it they also express the valuable services that are always underway by the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran after the victory of the revolution, so that it will not be misused by the enemies.

In continuation, he said: As Mr. Ahmadi said himself, may God grant us fairness. We should also observe this ourselves.

The Combining Committee began the proposal for the examination of the Five-Year Plan bill in the second round of discussions. In this connection, Mr. Nowbakht, the spokesman of this committee, told our parliamentary correspondent: At the present, the projected revenues in the Second Plan are being examined, and in this regard, four groups have been combined in the committee. The first group, with the Economic Committee to examine the issue of taxes and tax revenues. These groups, all assigned last Sunday to examine these revenues, will in

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future days present their report to the Combining Committee. Afterwards, the procedures for the distribution of these resources, following the policies that were ratified in the first round of discussions, will be announced to the specialized committees, which will have two weeks to report their opinion to the Combining Committee. Afterwards, in accordance with the bylaws, the Combining Committee will have three weeks to combine all the reports of the second round of discussions and present its findings to the open session of the Majles.

## 18 Sep

*95LA0003A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 19 Sep 94 pp 5, 15*

[All quotation marks in the original]

[FBIS Translated Text] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles held an open session yesterday with Mr. 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri presiding, and the deputies from the cities of Ramian, Rudsar, Sari, and Semnan made speeches as preagenda speakers. Then the Majles went into session. We call to the attention of our distinguished readers the details of the discussions.

**Mo'amma Holaku, Deputy From Ramian**

The first preagenda speaker of the open session of the Majles was Holaku from Ramian, who honoring Sacred Defense Week said: In this sensitive international political situation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we must be continuously thankful to God for turning all the tricks against them.

Stating that the enemies of Islam are afraid of introducing any sort of government or social system under the heading of Islam by Muslims and try to suppress and destroy it, he added: Among such responses we can mention their reaction to the issue of the government of the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Algeria.

He continued: Even on the basis of democratic slogans and observing the social rights of the people, they are not prepared to accept the Islamic veiling of Muslim girls in schools.

Expressing thanks for the active and measured participation of the Iranian delegation in the UN Development and Population Conference in Cairo, the speaker said: The active participation of Iranian women on the international scenes and such victories as the success of the Iranian female student team in the international Olympic competitions are some of the situations that disarm the enemies in regards to many propaganda slogans.

Pointing out that with the passage of 16 years since the Islamic revolution, great advances have taken place in the Islamic country, Holaku said: Even though we suffered eight years of war, we went through the period of a five-year plan. Certainly we have made mistakes, but in regards to correcting them, the instructions of the grand leader prior to the first round of discussions of the Second Developmental Plan could give the honorable Majles a clear viewpoint for the progress of development, which was to make the agricultural sector the central issue in the first round of discussions.

Stating that in considering agriculture as the central issue, special attention must be paid to the east of Mazandaran, the deputy of Ramian added: This region, with 650,000 hectares [ha] of agricultural land and 2 million tons of farm and fruit products annually, is an important agricultural center. Unfortunately, out of the total existing potential for agriculture, only a small amount is used. He added: The most important issue in regards to agriculture in the region is water, the amount of which is large, but there has been no comprehensive program to harness it.

The speaker continued: At the same time, out of 400 billion rials [R] of investment in this sector in the First Plan, more than 90 percent of it has been spent in the west of the province, which has a suitable situation in terms of moisture and level of precipitation. In the area of land resources, there is great potential for development. Out of 2 million ha in the east of the province, only about 30 percent is cultivated, and out of the total amount of land cultivated, only 200,000 ha, that is about 30 percent of it, is farmed by way of irrigation.

Holaku said: Another problem is the issue of credit in the agricultural sector of the region. The total value of agricultural products in 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992] amounted to R420 billion, but the total funds granted by the Agricultural Bank were restricted to only 7 percent of that figure.

Referring to inflation with regard to nonagricultural products, especially agricultural machinery, and comparing it with the price of agricultural products, which is not tangible, the deputy from Ramian added: Land resources are not utilized fully and efficiently, and the buying power of farmers is declining.

He continued: Unfortunately, no significant investment has been made by the cooperatives either. For example, in 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994], out of the total allocated funds in Note 3, which amounted to 1.2 billion tumans, only 2.7 percent was allocated to the east of the province.

He added: The government can provide the grounds for the development of this oppressed region by allocating subsidized loans and separating the funds of some notes from the total allocation of the province and creating a Central Cooperative office in the east of the province.

Thanking the honorable Energy Committee for visiting the eastern part of the province, which gave people hope for the building of such dams as Garkaz and Zarringel, the speaker said: I ask the honorable director general of water of the province to take urgent steps to strengthen the administration of water in Gonbad as soon as

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possible, in order to remove the notion in the minds of the people that the Water Office of Gonbad is only collecting money for wells and flowing water, etc.

The deputy from Ramian in continuation made a reminder to the minister of mines and metals to pay more attention to Majles ratifications and said: He must issue instructions to transfer 33 percent of the share of East Alborz Coal to these dear ones.

In conclusion, he asked the minister of post, telegraph and telephone to resolve the problem of the 3,000 telephone center of Azadshahr.

**Mohammad Mehdi Rahbari-Amlashi, Deputy From Rudsar**

The next speaker was Rahbari-Amlashi the deputy from Rudsar, who said: The Iranian regime in the world today, by the grace of God and the efforts of the nation and concerned officials, has been able to gain a strong and prestigious place.

The U.S. military invasion, the destructive imposed war, the economic embargo, the conspiracy of the hypocrites and counterrevolutionaries, the numerous explosions, and the martyring of the national officials can each destroy an ordinary, rootless regime. But, thank God, all these conspiracies have been neutralized, and the sacred regime of the Islamic Republic continues its divine Islamic path steadfastly and with resistance.

He then added: It is true that the regime is Islamic, all the people are Muslims and support it, and this regime has been able to offer valuable service. But this flower garden of the Islamic Republic has some thorns that must be removed; there are some weaknesses in it that must be corrected. It is true that among the officials there are people like the president, who has offered his reputation and all his being to preserve and protect the revolution, but there are also officials who fearlessly commit violations, especially in economic areas, and we usually do not punish these violators.

Stating that little is said about the weaknesses and shortcomings and there is no self-monitoring, he said: In economic issues toward which the society is extremely sensitive and vulnerable, even though we were able to make the economic structures thrive, save the country from recession, and bring it to economic growth, it is true that in the First Five-Year Plan the basic structures of the economy were established, and the negative growth of the gross national product prior to the plan has been changed to a positive growth of 7.3 percent in the course of the program. And in steel, cooper, and construction materials, we have had growth and have reached self-sufficiency. The production of wheat has reached about 10 million tons. The unused and disabled capacities of industry have become operational. In fundamental affairs, such as electricity and harnessing water, great investments have been made, and finally, much developmental work has been done, and the share of the developmental budget in the total national budget has reached from 19 percent in 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990] to 24 percent in 1372 [21 March 1993-20 March 1994], but in the same plan, inflation, from which people suffer the most, was not controlled, and the increase of cash flow, which is a destructive calamity for the oppressed and the low-income people, instead of a growth of 3.4 percent at the last year of the plan reached a growth of over 34 percent. Most important, social justice did not take place in the area of the just distribution of wealth, and the share of the low-income population from the total production revenues of the country was insignificant.

Unfortunately, some of the officials of economic organizations, the Plan and Budget Organization, and the Central Bank are only in a hurry regarding economic growth and pay little attention to the just distribution of wealth. Also, if the economic problems resulting from the fluctuations in the price of oil and shortages of government revenues were explained well by the honorable officials, one could not complain. But some of these high prices and economic pressures that weigh heavily on the shoulders of the people are the result of the undesirable actions of some people who, fearless of punishment, continue to do their work as before.

Rahbari continued: Take, for example, the recent high prices of cement, with suddenly in some places the price increasing threefold. And who is escalating the high price of shortening, sugar cubes, and sugar? Is it not that the producers of these goods are mainly under government control or government supervision? An official from one of the provinces reported that the sugar factories in his area of assignment have made several billion tumans in profit in a short period of time. In such cases, the government must report to the people quickly through its spokesman the reasons for such economic disruptions and high prices. Unfortunately, there is no person called a government spokesman to report to the people on the work of the government once every few days.

The high price of some goods may be due to the economic problems, low revenues of the government, and shortage of imports. For example, in 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992] and 1371 [21 March 1992-20 March 1993], each year we had about $30 billion in import goods and services, but in the six months of this year, we had only about $2 billion in imports.

The deputy of Rudsar explained: When people see the extravagance and waste of some of the government companies and organizations, they do not believe the shortage of government revenues. According to the report of one of the ministries, they import a computer that costs a few million dollars at a price of $40 million, and some companies pay salaries of several thousand tomans to the general managers of the company. Or, according to a documented report, one of the industrial ministries, the current budget of which in 1371 was

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R1,249 million, received and spent R43,900 million in gifts, which is 25 times the ministry budget for government companies.

In transferring the companies to the private sector, too, there are misuses. When the shares of the transferrable companies are supposed to be transferred to the public, which is the best way of privatizing, they sell the shares at such high prices that people suffer losses, like the shares of the National Industries Organization that were offered about two years ago by the banks to the people. When they are sold to acquaintances, sometimes they are sold at a very low price.

According to him, the existence of political parties and establishments of the Islamic Councils in the cities and villages can prevent the occurrence of many violations as oversight organizations preventing deviant currents.

In conclusion, the speaker pointed to the problems of his constituency.

**'Ezzatollah Damadi, Deputy From Sari**

The next speaker was Damadi from Sari, who addressed the members of the Combining Committee who are engaged in examining the Second Plan and said: Any sort of increase in the price of government services under the heading of economic modification, such as oil products, natural gas, the price of water, electricity, telephone, etc., is not in the interest of the country and the people and must be seriously prevented in order to avoid adding any more problems for the people.

He added: I am not opposed to economic modification, but I oppose the increase in excessive expenditures and uncontrolled extravagance that causes increased prices.

Asking what percentage of its collected domestic and foreign revenues in the First Plan did the government spend on fundamental work, the speaker said: Careful attention must be paid to planning in this case, and we must think of a way for the government to allocate 80 percent of its revenues to fundamental and investment work and the rest to current expenditures

Damadi added: In a system in which 80 percent of the economy, production, trade, services, and distribution is in the hands of the government, and the price of raw materials and foreign currency changes every day, what is the meaning of modification? In economic modification, first the price of foreign currency must be determined, and the relative buying power and income of the people must be taken into consideration in order to create equality and harmony and establish social justice.

Stating that unfortunately in economic modification which is onesided, for now, the issue is to eliminate subsidies without taking into consideration the decrease in expenditures and careful supervision over the management of work, he said: This action will cause a recession in other economic sectors. For example, as a result of increasing the price of water, electricity, and telephone, on the one hand, coupled with the increase in the price of raw materials and the change in the rate of foreign currency and other problems, especially with regard to banking loans and the payment of 20 percent of deposits for imports of raw materials, on the other, the production output has declined and even caused the closure of production units, which has created anxiety in the society and must be resolved.

In continuation, the deputy from Sari added: In the coordinated system, the base rate for wages was set by taking into consideration inflation, with the price coefficient of every dollar at 100 tumans in the budget of the same year, which was the actual price at the time. The additional amounts had to be be paid by the government in its offering of services to the people in the form of subsidies or reforming the structure.

Pointing out one of the weaknesses of the First Plan in the distribution of funds, the speaker said: This action caused some of the projects in the provinces not to reach production despite the large expenditures. In this connection, the capability and potential of provinces and rapid return on investments in the sectors must be taken into consideration, and the implementation of the projects must be carefully supervised. In order to prevent inflation, the price of foreign currency in the course of the plan must be specified, and it must be more seriously supervised so that the expert costs of the plan do not change.

Stating that policy making in the country is one of the duties of the Majles, and the government must be in harmony with the Majles in this connection and in implementing the policy observe the law, he said: In the Majles, the increase in the price of any sort of goods and services was prohibited. For what reason does the government increase the price of some goods and services, and we learn about it in the newspapers? If in connection with this responsibility an official does not pay attention or does not succeed in his tasks, if a deputy must make a reminder or raise a question, it does not mean weakening the government, but rather strengthening it. We must seriously implement and administer the law.

The deputy from Sari also added: Supporting the government does not mean obedience. Rather, it means cooperation, guidance, and careful supervision over the implementation of the tasks. The people demand of their Majles and deputies that they have a serious presence in the affairs of the country. The Majles must not spend its time in the framework of projects and bills that sometimes do not solve any of the country's problems. Rather, it must oversee the affairs more and point out the weaknesses or offer solutions.

Referring to the increase in the rate of goods and services, sometimes up to 50 percent, Damadi added: Indeed, one cannot justify the situation for the people any more. Inflation is such that it cannot be tolerated. By putting price labels on goods, the government will not reduce its responsibility. Inflation must be truly harnessed.

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First, foreign currency must be controlled. In the conclusion to his speech, the speaker asked the Administration and Employment Affairs Organization to prevent excessive red tape. For example, to obtain a permit for an industrial or production unit, the opinion of 20 organizations is sought, all of which is excessive. Or they should hold their meetings after the official working hours, so that problems are not created for the people.

**Seyyed Reza Akrami, Deputy From Semnan**

Akrami the deputy from Semnan was the last preagenda speaker. He thanked the president and his accompanying delegation for visiting Garmsar and opening the sodium sulfate factory. Then, referring to the issue of satellites, he said: Our dear people must know that the satellite can be discussed from various viewpoints. One is knowledge and technology and another is people's awareness of the scientific advances, experiences, and news, which no one opposes.

Islamic Iran, especially after the victory of the revolution, has truly taken long strides in technology and sciences, so that today our universities and research centers cannot be compared to those prior to the revolution. We participate in international conferences and also hold numerous scientific conferences in our own country.

He added: Regarding the global satellites, whose planners are the oppressors of the world and who inculcate lies in the context of news, do we have the right to permit our people to be under the influence of such propaganda? Do we have no responsibility vis-a-vis the thoughts, ideas, and beliefs of the people? We are responsible for the people, and the regime has the responsibility with regard to health, education, and treatment, as well as the ideas and beliefs of the people. Our question is, will CNN, NBC, and BBC also allow us to defend ourselves via satellite 15 minutes a day or two hours a week?

We must warn the people and think in terms of the law. On the other hand, I remind the Voice and Vision and the press that, in getting any useful program that exists anywhere in the world, we must not blindly accept the opinions of the people, so that people are not exposed to polluted ideas.

**Ratifications**

**Continuation of the Bill on the Health Services Insurance System**

The first item on the agenda of the open session of the Majles yesterday was the continuation of the examination of the details of the bill on the national health services insurance system, the remaining articles of which were ratified.

Article 13. The shares of the per capita health insurance fee for those eligible for this law on the basis of job groups are as follows:

1. Government employees, one-fifth to one-third of the per capita insurance fee that is determined in ratio to the salary and benefits, with the approval of the Cabinet.

2. Those eligible for the social security law, on the basis of the social security law regulations.

3. Villagers, up to a maximum of 40 percent of the per capita insurance premium concerning villagers, on the basis of the ratifications of the Cabinet.

4. Owners of private businesses, up to 100 percent of the per capita insurance premium, upon the suggestion of the Supreme Council and the ratification of the Cabinet.

Article 14. The per capita insurance premium for needy individuals in the society who are unable to pay, upon the joint suggestion of the Imam Khomeyni Emergency Committee and the Plan and Budget Organization, will be secured and provided by the government and included on an independent line in the budget law of every year and placed at the disposal of the abovementioned committee, to be spent on the basis of agreements on the description of the current activities on the per capita health services insurance premium of those individuals and contracts signed with insurance organizations and companies.

Note 1. The bylaws on the procedures for determining and identifying needy individuals, including the definitions, regulations, and standards for determination, shall be proposed by the Imam Khomeyni Emergency Committee and the Plan and Budget Organization and approved by the Cabinet.

Note 2. The Imam Khomeyni Emergency Committee is responsible for observing the content of Note 1 of this law, and with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health and Treatment, including the Welfare Organization of the provinces, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Construction Jihad, and other organizations and institutions, for preparing every year statistical data about the people under its coverage and those eligible to receive the services, separated by province, and after the approval of the Supreme Council announcing to the Plan and Budget Organization the plans for taking implemental steps, projections, and providing the necessary funds.

Article 16. The Plan and Budget Organization is responsible for projecting and including every year the funds concerning the share of the government in the health insurance premium of employees of organizations that make use of the general government budget in the form of a clear plan in the annual ratified budget of each executive organization. The related organizations are responsible for taking direct steps to sign contracts with health services insurance organizations or other insurance companies and establishments.

Note. In addition to the instances that are specified in this law, the Plan and Budget Organization is responsible for including in special lines in the budget law, in regards

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to other paragraphs of Article 13 of this law, considering the percentages cited in the same article, the government share in proportion to the number of insured people in every group in the form of aid.

In regards to Article 16, a number of deputies requested that this article be omitted.

This article concerns the transfer of government hospitals (nonteaching) to the private sector, which faced the opposition of a number of deputies and in the end the omission of the article was put to a vote and ratified.

"It is noteworthy that the details of the report and the above-mentioned articles were published in yesterday's issue of the newspaper."

Article 17. Other organizations may be subject to this law, if they wish to be.

Article 18. All hospitals, health and treatment centers, diagnostic centers, and physicians are responsible for admitting and treating the insured persons and offering and carrying out the necessary medical services and care on the basis of the ratified regulations.

Note. The Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education is responsible for determining the rules and procedures for supervision of general health insurance services with the cooperation of the Medical System Organization and the Judicial Branch, with consideration for the goals of this law and existing laws and, after the approval of the Supreme Council, having it approved by the Cabinet.

Article 19. The Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education is responsible, in the implementation of the general national health services insurance, within a maximum of one year after the ratification of this law, for preparing all standards of the law, supervisory methods, and bylaws cited in this law, with the cooperation of related authorities, and having them approved by the related authorities.

Article 20. All laws and regulations contrary to this law will be nullified after this law is put into effect.

**Selection of Two Majles Deputies as Observers in the Meetings of the Council on the Sale of Factory Shares**

The second item on the agenda was the selection of two Majles deputies as observers in the meetings of the Council on the Sale of Factory Shares to Self-Sacrificers and Workers. The Majles elected Mr. Rashidi with 108 votes and Mr. Astaneh with 91 votes.

Also, Mr. Tavassoli, with 66 votes, and Mr. Karami, with 23 votes, did not receive majority votes.

**Return of Bill on Asking for Respite Regarding the Debt of Nicaragua to Iran**

The next item on the agenda was the return by the government of the bill on asking for respite regarding the repayment of the debt of the Government of Nicaragua to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Proposal To Prohibit the Use of Satellite Antennas**

The last item on the agenda was the report on the first round of discussions of the Islamic Guidance and Art Committee in regards to the prohibition against the use of satellite antennas (dishes).

The spokesman of the Guidance Committee said in regards to this proposal: One of the tools in present technology is the satellite, which is not prohibited if used properly and desirably. It is even desirable. But what has caused the submission of this proposal by the deputies is the improper and incorrect use of satellites. No one opposes the satellite, they oppose what is broadcast from the satellite now, which in fact is an effective tool for bringing deviation to human societies, and they are right to oppose it.

He then added: The danger that threatens our nation, our religion, and our cultural identity from the satellite is very serious.

The spokesman also referred to the clear decree of the sources of emulation and grand scholars and said: Our border guards of what is allowed and not allowed are the grand sources of emulation. Our nation has always paid special attention to and absolutely obeyed these impenetrable trenches and fortresses, and they [the sources of emulation] have expressed their view clearly.

He added: Through an assessment, the committee reached the conclusion that the satellite and its programs are truly harmful, and the Majles must clearly announce its view and finally ratify it.

The spokesman of the Guidance Committee enumerated the features of the proposal and said: The committee has established that the authority to examine this prohibition is the Islamic Revolution Courts, because the users mostly act in a gang and network form, and most attention is paid to the networks and gangs that played an essential role in the propagation of this tool. The Ministry of Information has also been made responsible for cooperating in uncovering these gangs, and the punishments are mostly monetary.

After the explanations of the spokesman of the committee, Mr. Marhaba the deputy from Astara was the first opponent. He said: Prevention of and physical reaction to the use of satellite networks is not possible, because satellites are waves that due to the growth of communication technology will find their way into homes.

He then said: There is no need for us to come and collect the dish antennas. It will be set up with the use of a series of equipment and installation in glass or the use of a curtain whose warp and weft are the satellite antenna.

Marhaba also said: Any time we are able to prevent the radio waves of others, in this case, we can also succeed in

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this regard, even though in our opinion these satellites are a sort of clear aggression and violation of the national rule of countries, and all countries must find a solution.

Zare'i-Qanavati said in support of this proposal: What causes us concern is that this tool has fallen into the hands of those whose goal is to destroy all human values. In fact, this is like a sharp blade in the hands of a drunken savage.

He pointed out: We cannot be silent and indifferent in regards to the religious values of the nation. The fact that technology advances is another matter. But our argument goes beyond it and is more sensitive.

Zare'i-Qanavati, in continuation, stated that the problems of our country consist of cultural aggression against values and said: When in the country (Tehran) there are 130 available channels, many of which broadcast programs against our values day and night, we must be aware of the sensitive significance.

The next opponent to the prohibition of the satellite was Dr. 'Abbas Sheybani, who said: You cannot prevent the satellite. Strengthen radio and television, then nobody will watch the satellite. When I, a Muslim, realize that the satellite is religiously forbidden, I will not watch it. You must educate us as Muslims.

He then added: If you prohibit it, they will make the satellite in a way that it will require no antenna. Do not waste your time on this. The world knows that the Islamic Republic wants to stand up against heathenism and oppression, and for this reason they are engaged in propaganda to turn us around. You have weaknesses here, and you want to fix it somewhere else and say, prohibited, prohibited. Well, what will you replace it with? In my opinion, the proposal was very harmful and attracted more people to the satellite.

Mr. Habibian, the deputy from Hamadan, said in support of this proposal: We hear every day what satellites do to families. In fact, before the plan for the children, we must make programs for children who are more childish than children and have no intellect or common sense. Hence, take away these provoking tools and elements from families.

The continuation of the discussion was postponed to the next session.

**On the Margins**

Yesterday, a reminder addressed to the ministers of economic affairs and finance and interior was read in the Majles concerning the sale of partnership papers of the Navvab Project by Messrs. Yusefpur, Kuhkan, Nejabat, Saber, and Davar.

In this connection, Mr. Kuhkan said to our correspondent: In the statements made by the former director general of the Central Bank and the mayor of Tehran concerning the sale of partnership papers, there are some problems. The profit of the shares that has been set at 25 percent will disrupt investment and production. Also, this action will cause the rate of money to increase in the market, to increase the level of investment profit in the services sector compared to the production sector, and to increase the price of homes and shopping centers that are created through these investments. On the other hand, the doubtful tax exemption of the profit on shares is another problem regarding the project.

In this reminder, the minsters of economic affairs and finance and interior were asked to avoid the sale of the partnership papers of the Navvab Project for the above reasons prior to legal investigation.

After months of discussion on and examination of the proposal on the prohibition against the use of satellite programs in the Majles, some of the supporters and opponents expressed their views. On the issue that satellite programs are designed and broadcast with the goal of corrupting the minds of the youth and families, most deputies are unanimous. But the point that caused some of the deputies to hesitate in declaring their opposition was the likelihood of success of any action to prevent the broadcast of these programs.

It should be pointed out that in this connection, due to the investigations made by the Majles Research Center, some distinguished expert on electronic fields has said that there are various technical methods of dealing with satellite waves.

In connection with the question of a group of Majles deputies concerning the uncontrolled increase in price of some goods and services needed by the people, the Majles will have a closed session on Tuesday.

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